

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 1 is allowable and for indicating that claims 3-7, 9, and 10 contain allowable subject matter.

Drawings

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner accept the formal drawings submitted on July 18, 2003.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-10 were pending in this application. By way of this reply, claims 2 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-7, 9, and 10 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 3, 9, and 10 are independent. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 3.

Claim Amendments

Claims 3, 9, and 10 have been amended to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. No new subject matter has been added by way of these amendments, and these amendments have not been made in view of prior art. Accordingly, as amended, claims 3, 9, and 10 are now allowable.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,061,232 issued to Ho in view of Japanese Patent JP 09-063395A issued to Takahashi. Claims 2 and 8 have been cancelled in this reply. Thus, this rejection is now moot with respect to claims 2 and 8. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04536/018001).

Dated: August 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Jonathan P. Osha
Registration No.: 33,986
OSHA · LIANG LLP
1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant